

re there benefits or risks if I participate in a study?

- The study may not help you personally, but your participation may result in information that will help others in the future.
- Any risks or side effects may not be known completely when you start the study. The research team is required to tell you about any known risks.
- Your agreement to volunteer should be based upon a clear understanding of what will take place in the study and how it might affect you.

hat if I do not want to take part in a research study?

- If anyone asks you to take part in a research study, you have the right to say "no."
- Your decision will not affect your VA health care or benefits.
- You need to weigh both the risks of the study and the benefits.
- It may be helpful to talk with family members, friends or your health care providers before you make a decision.
- If you decide to take part in a study, you do so as a VOLUNTEER. This means YOU decide.
- You can change your mind and stop or leave a research study at any time without losing any of your VA health care benefits.

Volunteering in RESEARCH



Here are some things you need to know



www.va.gov/resdev/programs/PRIDE

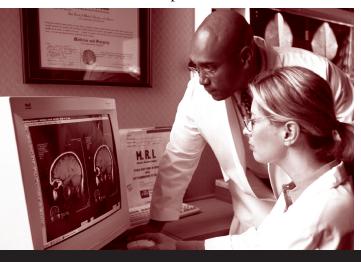


hould I take part in a VA research study?

The VA ranks as one of the nation's leaders in health research. For example, the VA:

- Developed artificial limbs that allow amputees more independence and a better quality of life
- Invented the cardiac pacemaker
- Performed the first successful liver transplantation
- Played a major role in the development of the CT (or CAT) scan to view the inside of the body
- Tested new drugs and treatments for such diseases as AIDS, diabetes, Alzheimer's, and osteoporosis
- Developed the nicotine patch to help people stop smoking

None of these advances in health care would have been possible without individuals willing to volunteer to take part in research.



hat questions should I ask before volunteering?

Here are some questions you might ask	☐ Could my condition get worse during
before deciding to take part in a research	the study? What happens if it does?
study at a VA Medical Center or clinic:	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
,	☐ What other options or choices do I
	have if I decide not to take part in
☐ Who is doing this study and what	this study?
questions might it answer?	,
	☐ Who will be in charge of my care? Can
☐ Who reviewed or approved this study?	I continue seeing my own doctor?
	ζ ,
☐ How long will this study last?	☐ Will I be charged anything or paid
	anything to be in this study?
☐ What could happen to me, good or	·
bad, if I take part in this study?	☐ If I decide to participate, how will it
□ 13771 1 ·11 T 1	affect my daily life?
☐ What tests or procedures will I have	
during the study?	☐ Will I have to make extra trips to
□ w/l : 111 111	the VA?
☐ Who will be told I am taking part in	
this study?	☐ What will happen to me at the end of
W/:11 -1-:	the study?
☐ Will this research help in	
understanding my condition?	☐ Will I be told the results of the study?
If so, how?	
Is it possible that I will receive a	☐ How do I end my participation in this
☐ Is it possible that I will receive a	study if I change my mind?
placebo (inactive substance)?	
What happens to any specimens that	☐ Whom do I contact for questions and
What happens to any specimens that	information about the study?
I give?	